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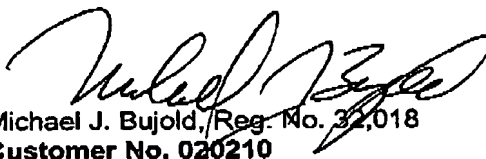
The Applicant thanks the Examiner for previously indicating that a timely filed Terminal Disclaimer, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), would overcome the raised double patenting rejection provided that the conflicting patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. In view of this indication, a further Terminal Disclaimer, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), is submitted herewith—as the necessary associated official fee for the terminal disclaimer was already paid, a further fee is not believed necessary. However, if a further fee is due and payable, please charge the same to the below listed Deposit Account. The United States Patent Office's records show the common ownership of the above identified application and the conflicting patent, namely, U.S. Patent No. 6,533,984 B2.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the raised double patenting rejection in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,533,984 B2 should be withdrawn at this time and this application is now placed in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this case, in the form of an early Notice of Allowance, is courteously solicited.

If any further amendment to this application is believed necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable form, the Examiner is courteously solicited to contact the undersigned representative of the Applicant to discuss the same.

In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,



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